

SEE BOTTOM OF PAGE FOR SPECIAL CONTROLS, IF ANY

PREPARED AND DISSEMINATED BY

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

COUNTRY

Poland

NAVY review completed.

SUBJECT

Port Information: Gdansk (navigation aids)
security measures, distress

This material contains information affecting the National Defense of the United States within the meaning of the Espionage Laws, Title 18, U.S.C. Secs. 793 and 794, the transmission or revelation of which in any manner to an unauthorized person is prohibited by law.

25X1

DATE DISTRIBUTED _____

1 April 1958

NO. OF PAGES

NO. OF ENCLS.	DATE	REMARKS
1	10/10/54	...
1	11/10/54	...
1	12/10/54	...
1	13/10/54	...
1	14/10/54	...
1	15/10/54	...
1	16/10/54	...
1	17/10/54	...
1	18/10/54	...
1	19/10/54	...
1	20/10/54	...
1	21/10/54	...
1	22/10/54	...
1	23/10/54	...
1	24/10/54	...
1	25/10/54	...
1	26/10/54	...
1	27/10/54	...
1	28/10/54	...
1	29/10/54	...
1	30/10/54	...
1	31/10/54	...
1	1/11/54	...
1	2/11/54	...
1	3/11/54	...
1	4/11/54	...
1	5/11/54	...
1	6/11/54	...
1	7/11/54	...
1	8/11/54	...
1	9/11/54	...
1	10/11/54	...
1	11/11/54	...
1	12/11/54	...
1	13/11/54	...
1	14/11/54	...
1	15/11/54	...
1	16/11/54	...
1	17/11/54	...
1	18/11/54	...
1	19/11/54	...
1	20/11/54	...
1	21/11/54	...
1	22/11/54	...
1	23/11/54	...
1	24/11/54	...
1	25/11/54	...
1	26/11/54	...
1	27/11/54	...
1	28/11/54	...
1	29/11/54	...
1	30/11/54	...
1	1/12/54	...
1	2/12/54	...
1	3/12/54	...
1	4/12/54	...
1	5/12/54	...
1	6/12/54	...
1	7/12/54	...
1	8/12/54	...
1	9/12/54	...
1	10/12/54	...
1	11/12/54	...
1	12/12/54	...
1	13/12/54	...
1	14/12/54	...
1	15/12/54	...
1	16/12/54	...
1	17/12/54	...
1	18/12/54	...
1	19/12/54	...
1	20/12/54	...
1	21/12/54	...
1	22/12/54	...
1	23/12/54	...
1	24/12/54	...
1	25/12/54	...
1	26/12/54	...
1	27/12/54	...
1	28/12/54	...
1	29/12/54	...
1	30/12/54	...
1	31/12/54	...

25X1

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

25X1

THE OFFICE OF NAVAL INTELLIGENCE FURNISHED THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION TO CIA FOR IAC DISSEMINATION IN ACCORDANCE WITH PARAGRAPH 3 c OF NSCID #7 (DIO, 8ND No 34-58).7

25X1

3. Approach and Pilot Data

Approach to Gdynia

Roads was made on a bearing of 033°T to sighting of Hel, then right to 071°T, then, having passed Hel, to 243.5°T, and remaining on this bearing until arriving at Gdynia Roads. Vessel then came to port and proceeded on a bearing of 164°T to HP buoy off Gdansk. It will be noted that this approach generally follows [redacted] avoiding "mined areas." Outbound, however, vessel left HP buoy and took a bearing of 042°T to Hel light buoy HL2 and then resumed 033°T. It will be noted that outbound track passes through supposedly mined areas. [redacted] captain purposely went through this area because [redacted] Polish Liberty-size ships doing it.

Vessel reportedly raised the Gdynia radio 16 days out. Gdynia radio is described as being "very strong, very high frequency."

c. Vessel was assisted inbound by the tugs BARNA and TARPIN; outbound the tugs VICTOR and TARPIN were used. These tugs are described as being about 75'

DISTRIBUTION

STATE

ARMY

NAVY.

AIR

NO DISSEM ABROAD

LIMITED

NOTED: Dissemination limited to, full-time employees of CIA, AEC, and FBI; and, within State and Defense, to the Intelligence components, other offices possessing NS elements, and higher echelons with their immediate superior staff to be disseminated to consultants, external projects or reserve personnel on short term duty (excluding individuals who are normally full-time employees of CIA, AEC, FBI, State or Defense) unless the written permission of the originating office has been obtained through the Assistant Director for Central Reference, CIA.

25X1

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

- 2 -

in length. [redacted]

25X1

25X1

[redacted] Inbound, vessel proceeded down Tote Weichsel to turning area, then came about and berthed at grain elevator, port side to. Inbound draft was 28'. No difficulty was experienced with depth of harbor.

25X1

4. Controls On arrival at berth a boarding party consisting of a physician and Customs and Immigration representatives came aboard. Their inspection of the ship was practically nil; passes were made out and handed to the crew as they passed by the Immigration representative. This Immigration representative was dressed in civilian clothing and was in charge of providing exchange of zlotys for dollars, giving the official rate of 25 zlotys to the dollar. Meanwhile, according to informant, the Customs representative (described as having three stars on his shoulders) was on the next deck giving 125 zlotys to the dollar. This Customs representative is further reported as wandering around asking for penicillin or oranges.

25X1

25X1

To go ashore crew simply showed Z card and their passes and were logged in the book by the gangway guard. Then, approximately 50' further on, another man checked the passes. Both gangway guard and gate guard had sidearms and rifles. Camera permits could be obtained by walking down to office beside automobile gate, noted on diagram of berth [redacted]

25X1

5. Berth Vessel arrived at grain elevator berth [redacted] and commenced cargo operations [redacted] completing them [redacted] Berth is diagrammed [redacted] one of the apparatus was inoperative while [redacted] there, reportedly because the conveyor belt was out of order. This, of course, made it necessary for the vessel to shift its berth twice, once ahead and once back. For unloading, vessel used three 3" tubes. Vessel discharged her cargo at the rate of one thousand tons every 24 hours.

25X1

25X1

25X1

25X1

6. Naval Vessels [redacted] there were six ARS-type naval vessels berthed opposite the Weichselmunde Turn. [redacted] these ARSs were well kept, manned, had radar, and were flying Soviet flags, but had no armament. [redacted] no naval vessels what- ever during his stay in subject port.

25X1

25X1

25X1

25X1

25X1

7. Shipbuilding and Repair [redacted] graving docks in Heimbucken and adds that these docks were of fishing boat capacity. [redacted] three ships are being built in Gdansk [redacted] at a cost - of US\$800 thousand apiece. Delivery date for the first is approximately mid-March and the other two ships are to be delivered approximately two months apart. The three masters and three chief engineers of these ships are presently in Danzig, rooming in private homes. These [redacted] freighters are supposed to be about 3500 tons each, diesel-propelled, with diesel engines [redacted] the ships would be capable of 16 knots.

25X1

25X1

25X1

25X1

25X1

25X1

25X1

8.

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

NOFORN

NO DISSEM ABROAD

LIMITED

25X1

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

- 3 -

25X1

9. Miscellaneous [redacted] the people in Poland preferred to listen to BBC rather than to the Voice of America, believing the BBC slants the news less. [redacted] Moscow was broadcasting to the Poles at this time that the dog of Sputnik II, Laika, was back on earth and healthy. [redacted] there were plenty of Christmas trees in Poland and [redacted] the city had quite a festive air while he was there. [redacted]

25X1

25X1

25X1

25X1

25X1

25X1

25X1

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

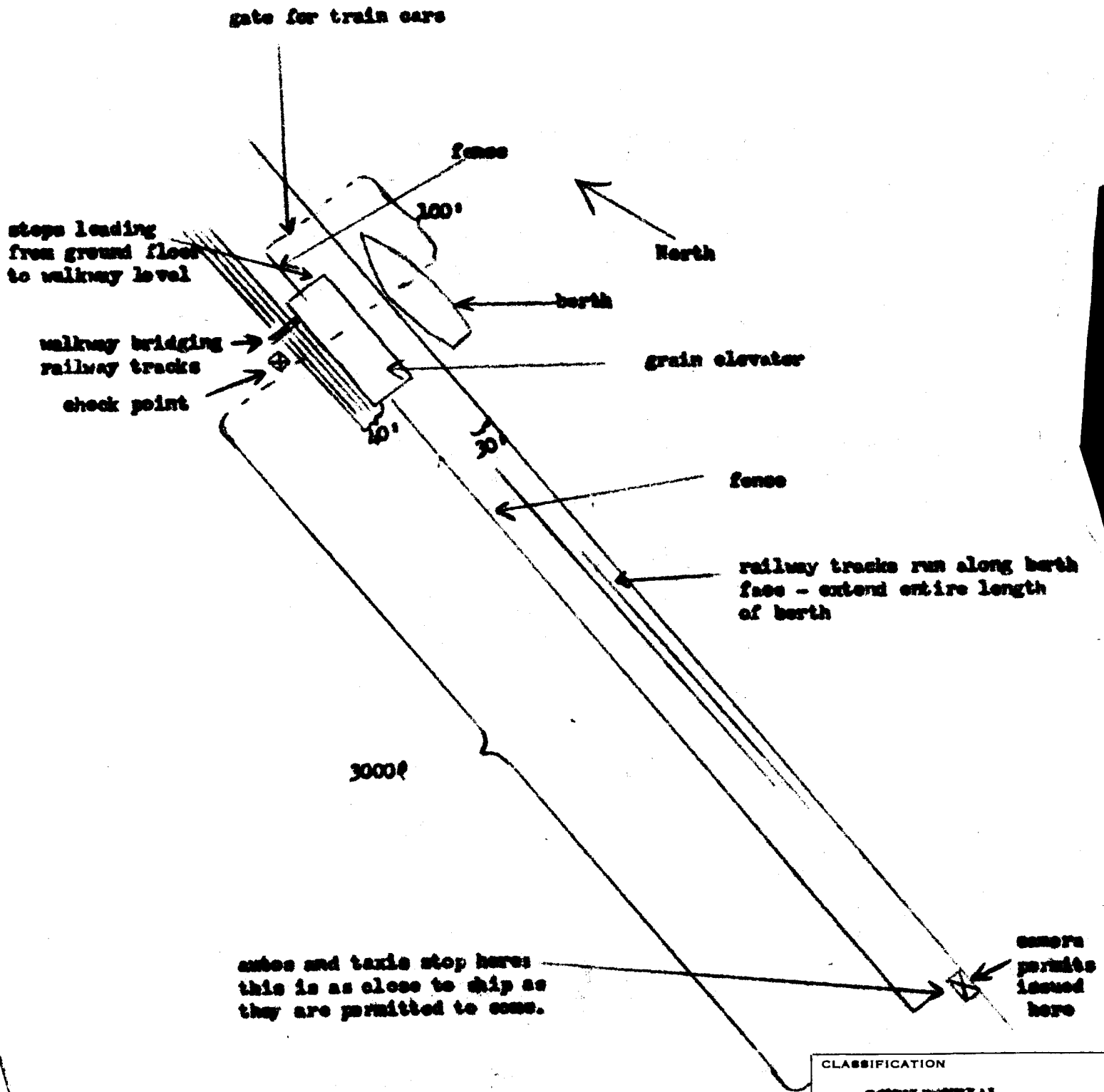
NOFORN

NO DISSEM ABROAD

LIMITED

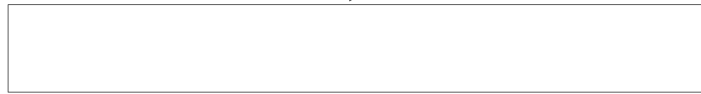
Approved For Release 2009/04/01 : CIA-RDP80T00246A003300090001-9

Page Denied



POLAND

of To-day



25X1



P O L A N D
of To-day

POLAND *of To-day*

Książka i Wiedza

Warsaw 1952

In the thousand years' old history of Poland have been included many bitter experiences. At the end of the eighteenth century, the ruinous policy of the Polish nobility led Poland to lose her independence. The Polish people fought unceasingly for their freedom. The people several times rose in insurrections took up arms and opposed their oppressors. The treacherous policy of the moneyed classes, however, who feared their own people being under arms and made secret agreements with the occupying powers, caused the defeat of these uprisings.

Poland regained her political independence through the Great October Revolution in Russia. Yet the Polish people obtained neither full independence nor full civil liberty. Domestic and foreign capital continued to exploit the resources of the country, the people remained plunged in misery and ignorance.

Fascist terror raged. Poland's best sons who were fighting for the real independence of their country and against the rule of the big landowners and capitalists, were thrown into prison.

Hundreds of thousands of Poles were, as in the past, once more forced to leave their homeland in search of bread and work.

And once again the policy of the moneyed classes led the country to disaster. As a result of the policy of the Polish fascist government and its allies abroad against the Soviet Union and the national interests of Poland, the Polish people once again lost their independence. The years of Nazi occupation were the darkest period in the history of the Polish nation.

During that period, the Poles were threatened with extermination. Six million citizens lost their lives and the country was bespattered with ruins. Yet the people did not not give in.

The struggle was kept up: partisans sustained the fight inside the country, Polish soldiers fought on all fronts of the Second World War.

On Soviet territory was formed a Polish Army which fought shoulder to shoulder with the victorious Soviet Army against the Nazi invader. As a result of the historic victory of the Soviet Army over Nazi Germany, the Polish people not only were liberated from foreign occupation, but also threw off the yoke of foreign capital and exploitation by their own bourgeoisie.

Thanks to the great help granted by the Soviet Union, Poland regained its historic territories in the West and thwarted the attempts of the Anglo-American and domestic imperialists to restore Poland's former reactionary regime and to push the country into new slavery. For the first time, the Polish people became the true masters of their own country. For the first time, confident in their future, they were able not only to tackle the task of resurrecting the country from the ruins of war, but were able also to begin to eliminate the terrible backwardness of the country — an inheritance left by domestic and foreign oppressors.

The fact that power passed into the hands of the working people and the all-embracing help of the Soviet Union created the conditions for the laying of the foundations of Socialism in Poland. Prospects of a bright future opened up before the Polish people.

Poland is no longer isolated in the international arena, is no longer in danger of becoming an easy prey to voracious conquerors. Poland is at present a member of the powerful camp of Socialism and Peace, she is surrounded by countries linked with her by bonds of co-operation and brotherhood.

I

THE COUNTRY AND ITS POPULATION

Geographic situation. Poland's natural frontiers are marked along the Odra-Nysa and Bug rivers, the Baltic Sea and the Carpathian mountain chain.

Her geographic situation is:

From latitude 54° 50' to 49° 0' North (405 miles)

From longitude 14° 05' to 24° 19' East (440 miles)

Poland covers an area of 120,000 sq. miles i. e. 2.7 per cent of the total area of the European continent.

The Baltic Sea





A lake in the Tatra Mountains

Floating timber in the Augustov Canal



Poland's present frontiers differ fundamentally from her frontiers before the Second World War. Through the victory of the Soviet Army, at whose side the Polish Armed Forces fought, Poland regained her ancient territories. The Potsdam Conference established the Western frontiers of Poland and there was concluded, on July 6th 1950, between People's Poland and the German Democratic Republic, an agreement which finally fixed the frontier between the two countries along the Odra and Nysa rivers. The Eastern frontier was laid down by the Polish-Soviet Treaty of August 16th 1945.

The length of the frontiers of the Polish People's Republic is at present 2,230 miles, of which 1,920 miles are land frontiers and 310 miles are sea-coast. More than three-quarters of the border lines are natural frontiers.

Poland's neighbours are the Soviet Union with a frontier 825 miles long; Czechoslovakia — 807 miles, and the German Democratic Republic — 285 miles.

A view of the Mazovian Plain.





The Mazury lake district

CLIMATE

The entire territory of Poland is situated in a temperate zone. Poland is under the influence of a marine and land climate.

The mean temperature in January is between 30° Fahrenheit in the Western territories and 25° F. in the Eastern districts. The mean temperature in July, which is the warmest month, varies between 63° and 66° F.

10 Average annual rainfall amounts to approximately 24 inches, which is adequate for the needs of agriculture.

Poland's present frontiers differ fundamentally from her frontiers before the Second World War. Through the victory of the Soviet Army, at whose side the Polish Armed Forces fought, Poland regained her ancient territories. The Potsdam Conference established the Western frontiers of Poland and there was concluded, on July 6th 1950, between People's Poland and the German Democratic Republic, an agreement which finally fixed the frontier between the two countries along the Odra and Nysa rivers. The Eastern frontier was laid down by the Polish-Soviet Treaty of August 16th 1945.

The length of the frontiers of the Polish People's Republic is at present 2,230 miles, of which 1,920 miles are land frontiers and 310 miles are sea-coast. More than three-quarters of the border lines are natural frontiers.

Poland's neighbours are the Soviet Union with a frontier 825 miles long; Czechoslovakia — 807 miles, and the German Democratic Republic — 285 miles.

A view of the Mazovian Plain



NATURAL REGIONS

Poland comprises mostly lowlands; elevations and mountain ranges are concentrated in comparatively small areas. A considerable quantity of relatively lesser elevations produce, combined with the undulation of the territory, a landscape varied in character.

The following natural regions can be distinguished: —

1. The Baltic lowland, from 0 — 150 ft. above sea level, embracing the area from the Odra mouth to the Vistula delta.

2. The lake district, 300 — 600 ft. above sea level, rich in forests.

3. The central lowland, 150 — 600 ft. above sea level, the so-called "Central Plain", including the courses of a number of very large rivers.

4. A chain of old mountains and elevations, rich in natural resources, includes, among others, the Sudeten Mountains, the highest peak of which is Sniezka (5240 ft.), the Silesian highlands (rich in coal), and the old range of the Swientokrzyskie Mountains.

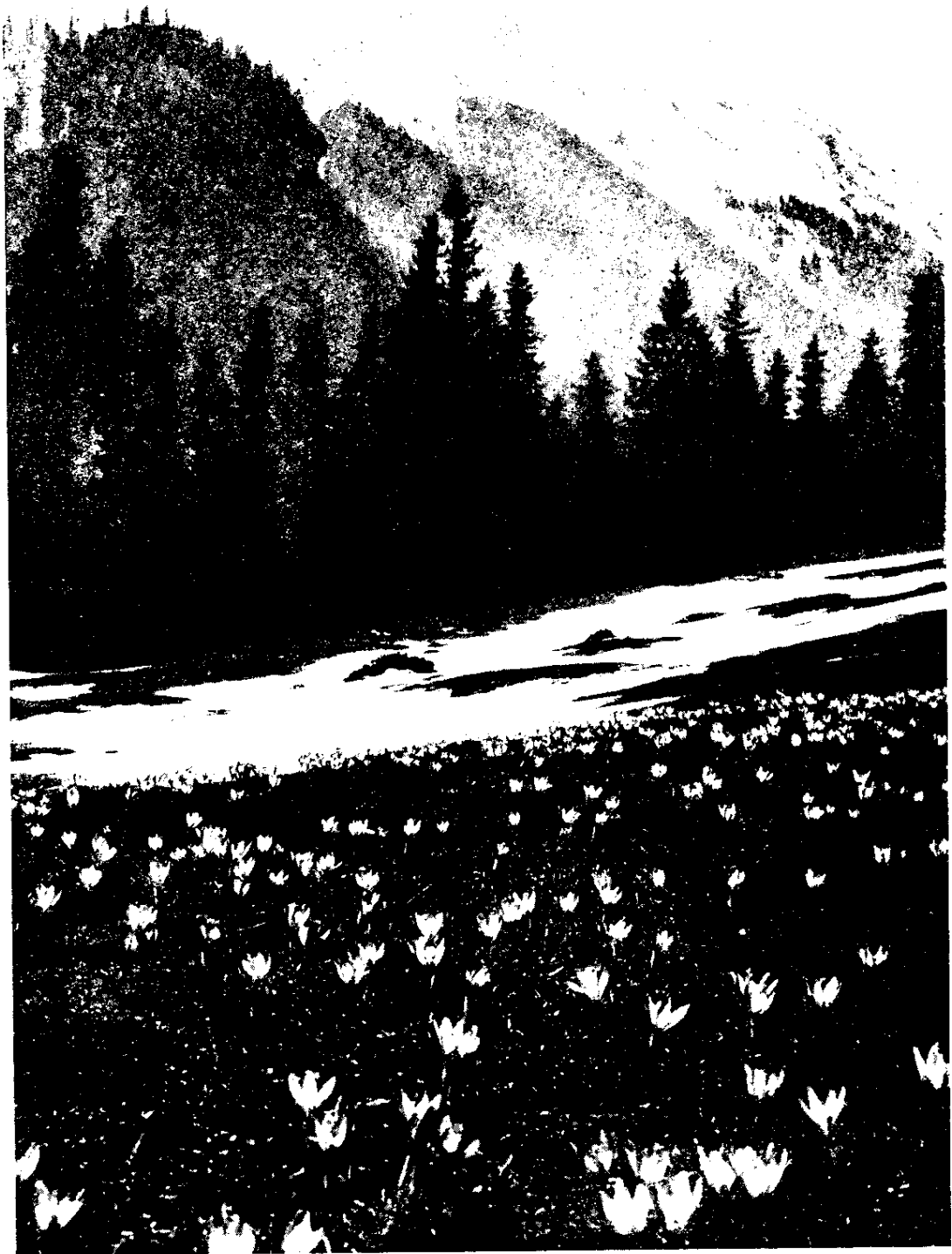
5. The Carpathian Mountains, with the Tatra Mountains, the highest peak of which is Rysy (8210 ft.).

Along the foot of the Carpathian Mountains, runs a chain of low hills interspersed by a number of valleys surrounded by mountains and highlands.

All the Polish rivers flow into the Baltic Sea. The two longest are the Vistula (682 miles long), and the Odra (537 miles long). The largest lake is Sniardwy (47 sq. miles).

POPULATION

To be specially considered in relation to the demographic problem of contemporary Poland, are the enormous losses suffered by Poland's population during the war. More than 664,000 people (123,000 soldiers and 541,000 civilians) were killed in actual fighting. The Nazi invaders carrying out their policy of extermination, murdered more than 5,380,000 people. More than 1,600,000 were wholly or partly disabled for work as a result of the war.



Spring in the Carpathian Mountains

D e n s i t y o f p o p u l a t i o n . According to statistical data published in December 1950, Poland had a population of twenty five million people (24,976,926).

The density of population amounted to 208 per square mile. The natural growth of population between the years 1946 and 1950 showed a consistent increase, and amounted to an average of 17.6 per thousand.

S t r u c t u r e . Of pre-war Poland's population of about 34,500,000 citizens, almost 65 per cent earned their living by agriculture. Capitalist conditions caused an enormous overpopulation of the villages where, according to estimates, there were from six to eight million so-called "surplus people". This constituted a convenient reserve of cheap labour for the landlords and capitalists, who, however, seldom took advantage of it.

A group of people in folk costume marching in the May Day Parade





Dancers from the Lowicz region



Young Silesian women in folk costume

There were 456,000 persons registered as unemployed in the towns in 1938. In reality, unemployment, taking into account the youth and workers who had lost the right to unemployment benefit, reached the one million mark.

According to the 1950 census, the basic occupational structure of the population has undergone a fundamental change. Agriculture provides a living for 45.8 per cent of the population, but the majority — 54.2 per cent — work in occupations other than agriculture, that is to say in industry, transport, trade, administration and so on.

The working class is growing rapidly. We have done away with unemployment once and for all. The problem of overpopulation of the villages has been completely solved by the industrialization of the country, the development of building, communication, trade, and by the transformation of the agrarian structure. Side by side with the transfer of large numbers of the village population to the towns, efforts are being made to liquidate the existing variations in density of population as between one area and another, and also the differences between living conditions in various parts of our country.

Poland, with her present frontiers, is a country with a uniform population. The post-war years brought about mass repatriation of Poles who had been driven by economic or political persecution to leave the country. The repatriates settled principally in the Regained Territories.

PRINCIPAL CITIES AND TOWNS

Poland's largest city, which is at the same time her capital, is Warsaw. During the war, it was viciously demolished by the Nazi occupants. Seventy five per cent of the city was reduced to rubble. The reconstruction of the capital was one of the main tasks assumed by the Polish nation. The outstanding progress in the building of a new Warsaw constitutes a most eloquent proof of the creative impetus of the young People's Democracy.

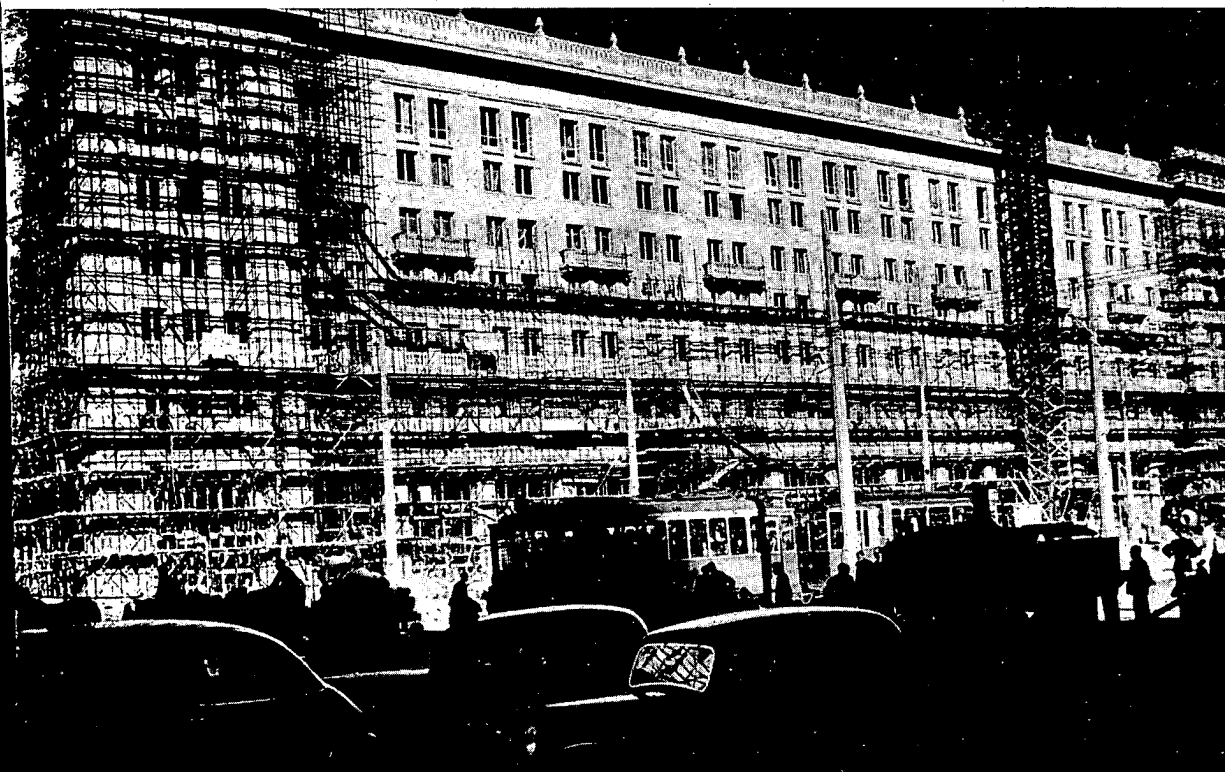
The reconstruction and simultaneous remodelling of Warsaw is being carried out at record speed. New residential

districts, surrounded by a profusion of lawns, trees, and flowers, are built along the main arterial roads which form the axes of the architectural and urban planning, and are in close harmony with the reconstructed centre of the city.

The Old City, with its ancient mansions and churches, is also rising from the ruins. Reconstruction is linked with the industrialization of the capital, for Warsaw is becoming a mighty industrial centre. In addition to the old rebuilt factories, new production plants are rising, the most important being the giant motor car works at Zeran, a lathe factory, and a manufacturing centre for telecommunication equipment. Work on the underground railway has also begun.

The foundations of the Palace of Culture and Science are being laid — a building 615 feet high, which will be one of the largest structures in Europe. This edifice, which is a gift from the Soviet people, is being constructed by Soviet engineers and workers using machines and materials brought from the Soviet Union.

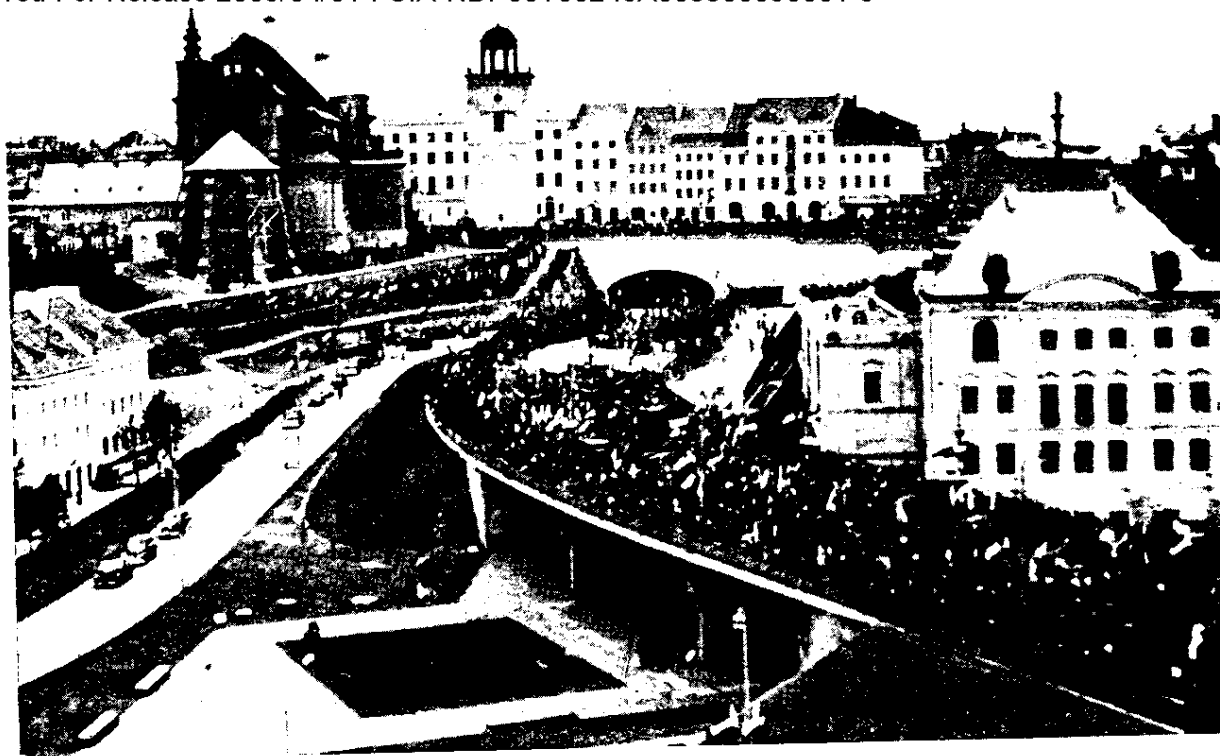
Houses similar to these are being raised in all quarters of Warsaw





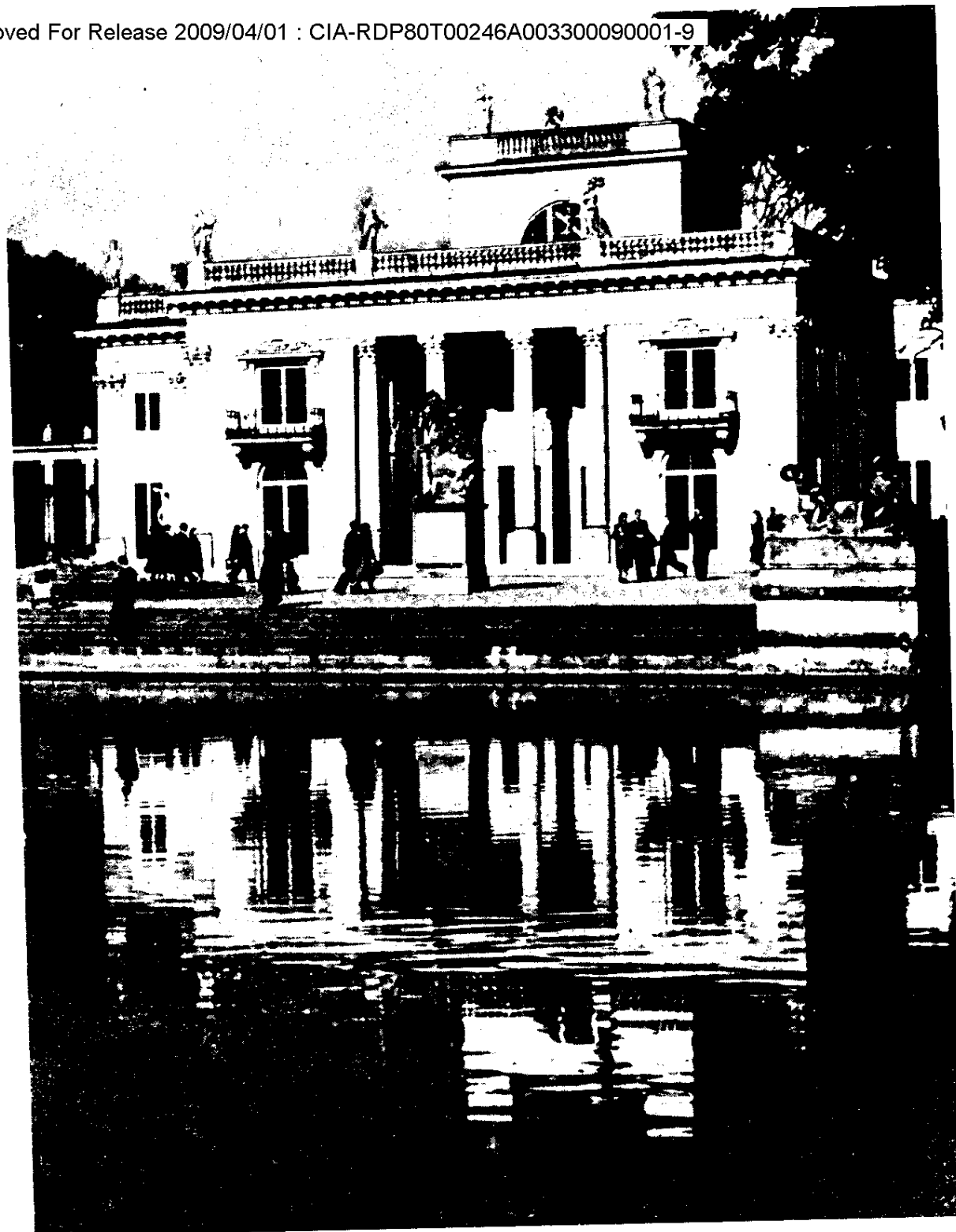
The East-West Thoroughfare in Warsaw



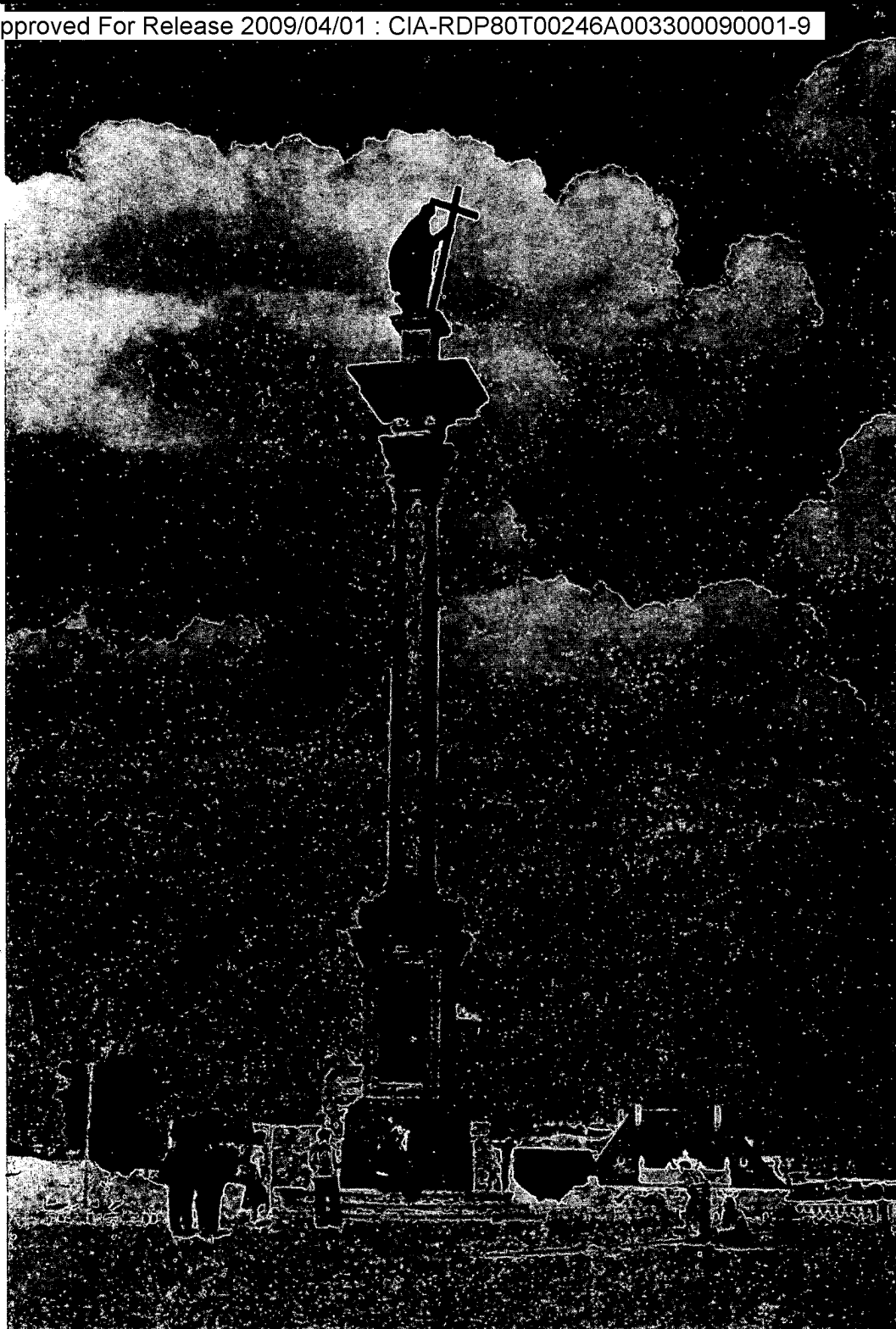


A new workers' estate in Zolborz





The Lazienki Palace in Warsaw



The King Sigmund Monument in Warsaw

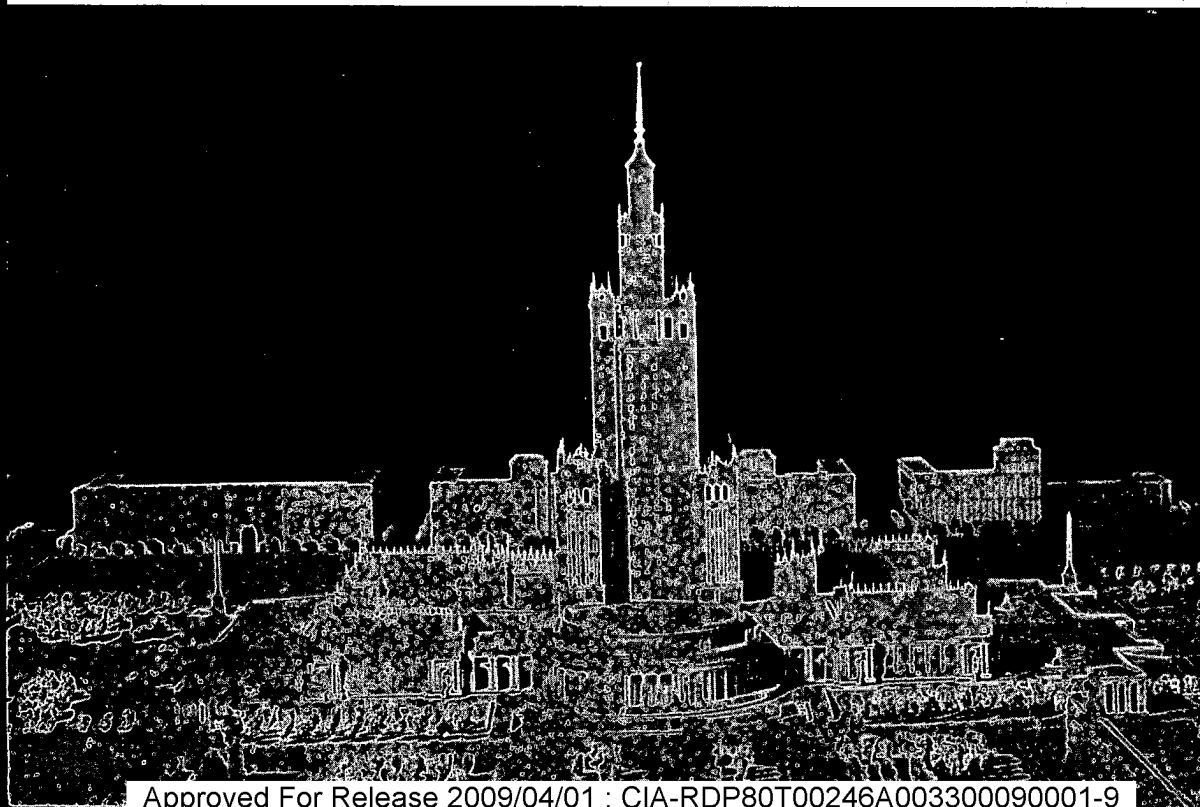
Before the Second World War, Warsaw had a population of 1,289,000. In 1945, the number of inhabitants was 378,000; it increased to 479,000 in 1946 and to 628,000 in 1949. At present Warsaw has approximately 800,000 inhabitants.

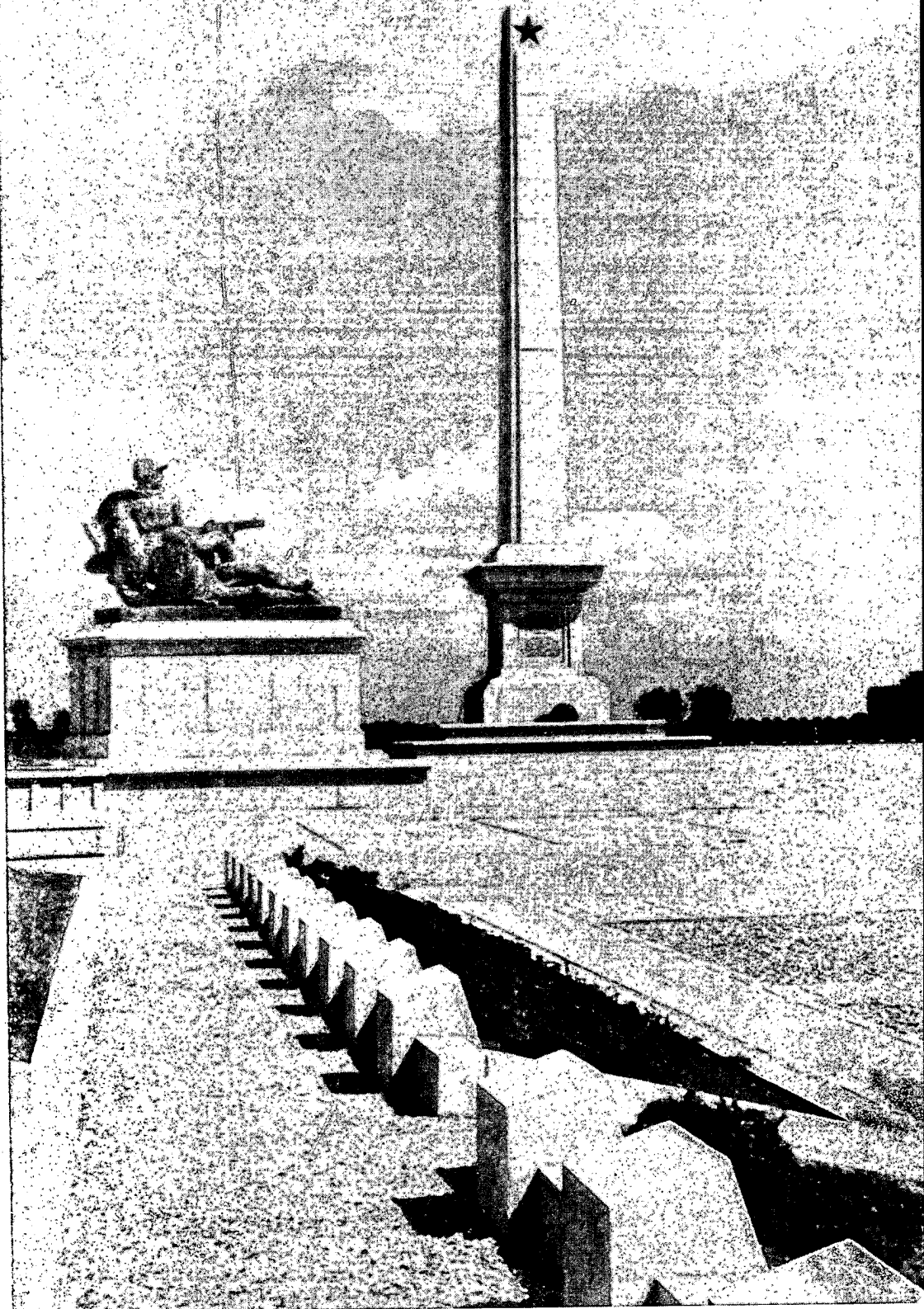
Poland has a total of 706 towns, 31 of which have a population exceeding 50,000. The second largest city is Lodz (600,000 inhabitants), a large textile manufacturing centre. Next come Cracow (307,000), Poznan (305,000), Wroclaw (302,000).

ADMINISTRATION

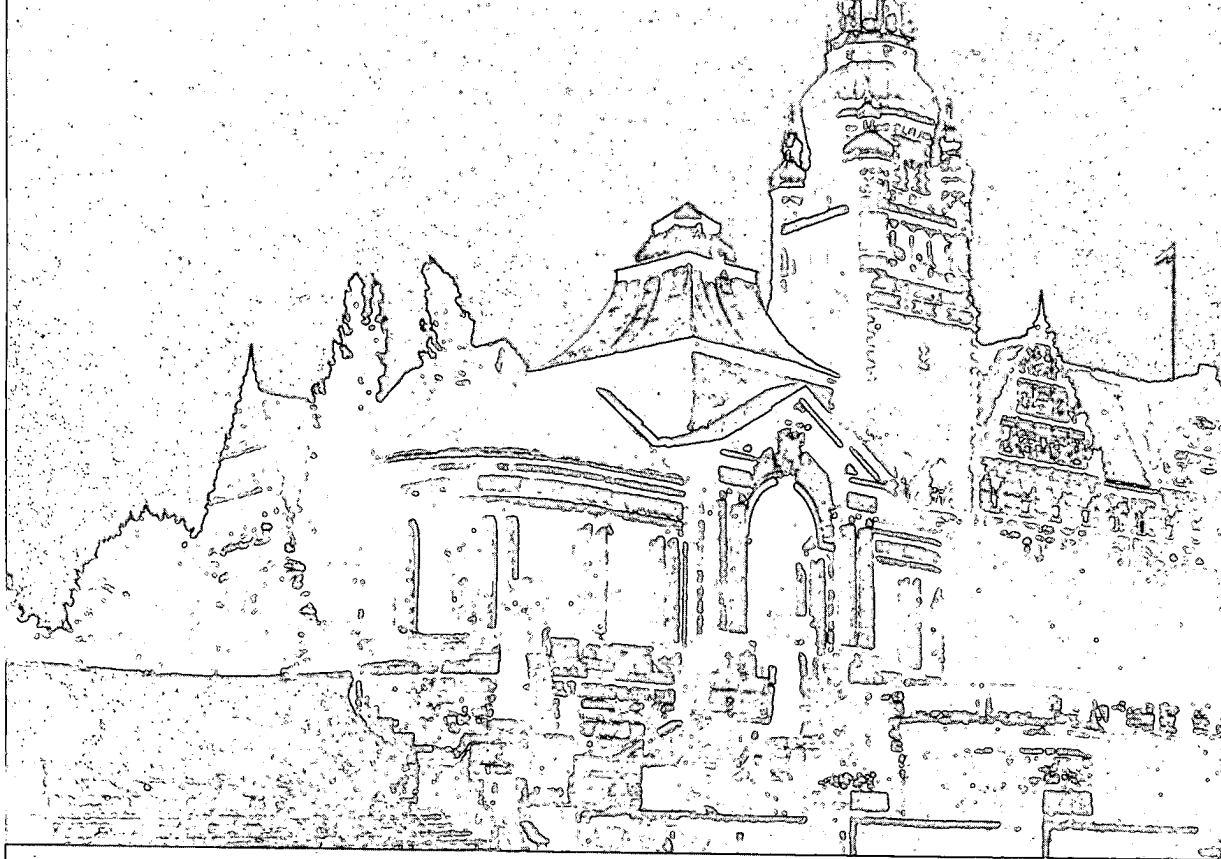
For purposes of administration, Poland is subdivided into voivodships (counties), districts and communities. For this purpose, the cities of Warsaw and Lodz are counted as voivodships. The total number of voivodships is 19, of districts 268, and of communities 2,956.

Model of the Palace of Culture and Science in Warsaw



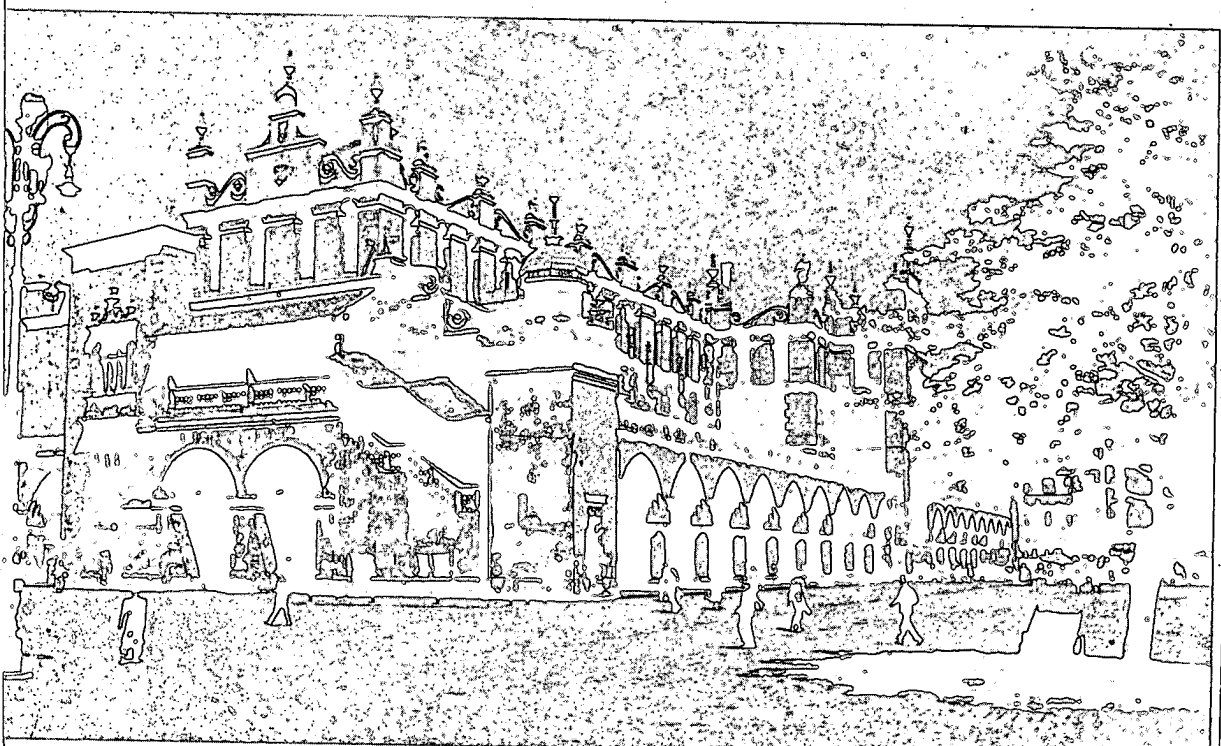


The cemetery of Soviet soldiers killed in the battle for the liberation of Warsaw



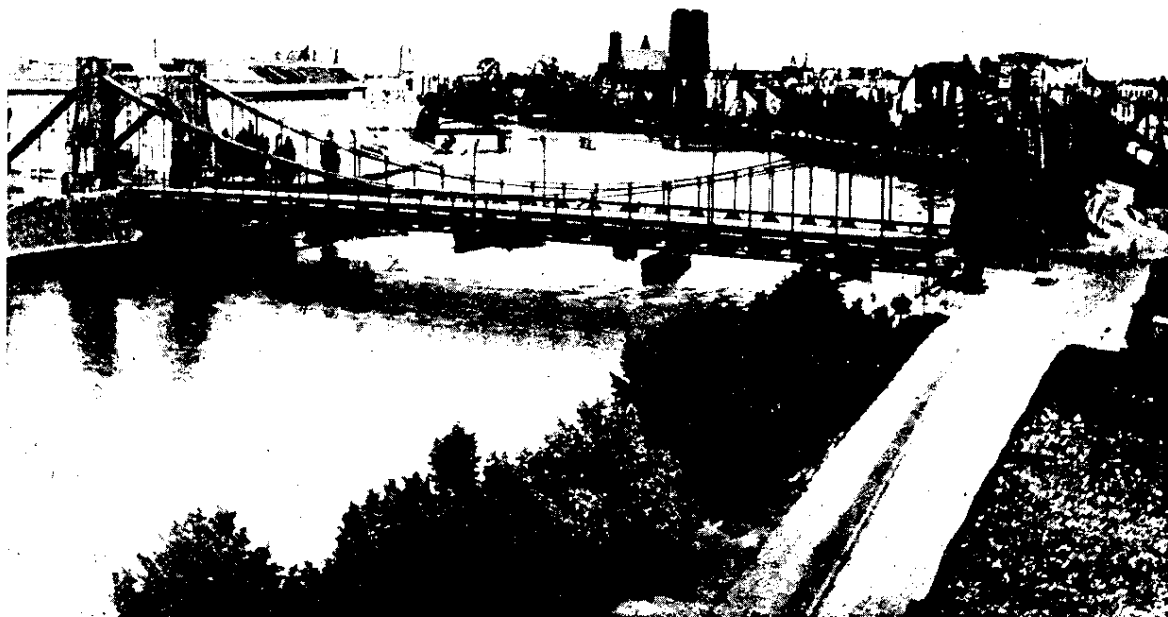
The King Chrobry Embankment in Szczecin

Cracow — the medieval cloth market





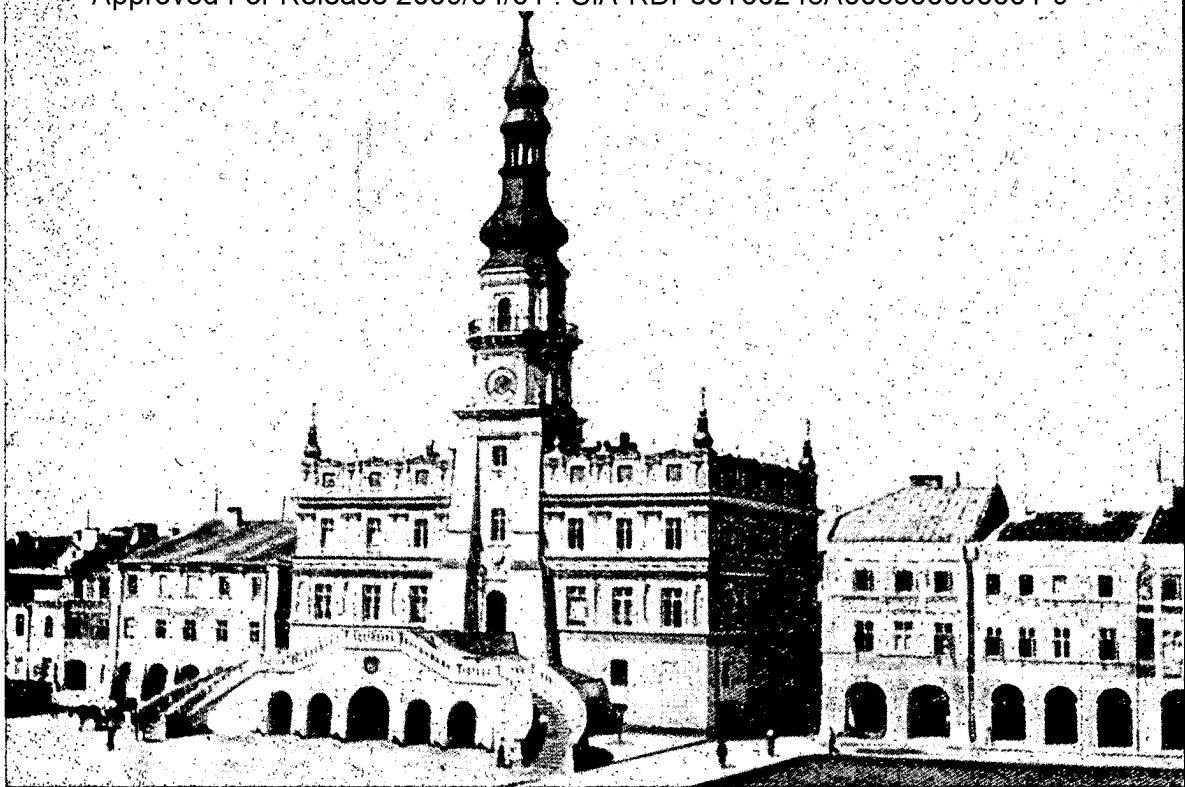
The Wawel Palace in Cracow



Wrocław -- view of the Odra

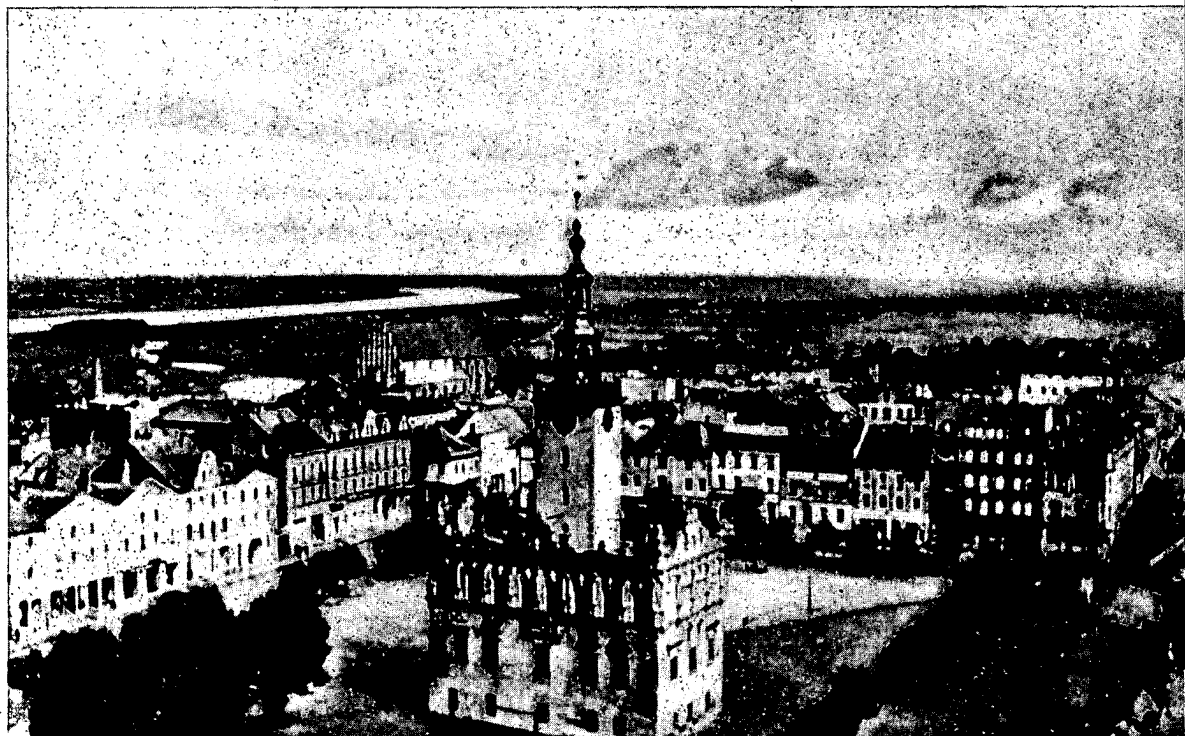
Lodz -- general view





Zamosc — Town Hall

Chelmno — market place and Town Hall





St. Ann's Church in Warsaw

II

POLAND — A PEOPLE'S DEMOCRACY

The historic victory over Nazi Germany, and the liberation of Poland by the Soviet Army, with whom the Polish Armed Forces fought side by side, created the necessary conditions for the assumption of power by the masses of the people, headed by the working class.

The People's Government has carried out important social and economic reforms, which have ensured the country's economic sovereignty and have created the conditions necessary for the introduction of a socialist planned economy.

Land reform has eliminated big landownership and righted the wrongs to which the Polish peasants had been subjected for many centuries. As a result of the land reform, the peasantry obtained over fifteen million acres of land. Land hunger no longer haunts the Polish village. This reform contributed directly to the raising of the standard of living of small and

Lublin — July 1944



medium farmers and laid the foundations for further changes in the social and economic structure of agriculture.

The second basic reform was the *nationalization of the key industries*. Ownership of all enterprises in key industries was transferred to the people; means of transport and banks were nationalized. Thus the political and economic influence of the capitalist class was shattered and a strong nucleus of socialist economy was created — the foundation of a new social order. The Polish working masses began eagerly to clear the ravages of war and to rebuild the country devastated by the Nazi occupants.

Gradually, the remnants of the capitalist system were liquidated, the power of the people was increased, and the principles of planned economy were broadened.

The tasks of rebuilding the national economy were laid down in a Three-Year Plan covering the years 1947—9.

The successful completion of the Economic Reconstruction Plan prepared the ground for new and considerably greater tasks. The year 1950 marked the beginning of the Six-Year Plan of Economic Development and Laying the Foundations of Socialism in Poland.

During the difficult post-war years, both in carrying out the Three-Year Plan and now the Six-Year Plan, Poland has enjoyed the fraternal all-round help of the Soviet Union. This help saved Poland from foreign intervention and thus enabled her to introduce social reforms and to consolidate the people's power.

The direct economic help, given by the Soviet Union without any political strings attached, has contributed in a great degree to the realization of the tasks of reconstruction, and is, at present, a guarantee that the Six-Year Plan will be fulfilled.

FORM OF GOVERNMENT

The political bases of Poland's form of government found their expression, after the liberation of the country, in the Manifesto of the Polish Committee of National Liberation, issued on July 22nd 1944. The economic conditions necessary for the transformation of the form of government were provided



Entrance to the State Council building

by the far-reaching social and economic reforms: the Land Reform (Sept. 6th 1944), the Nationalization of Industry (Jan. 3rd 1946) Transport and Banks.

Under the new Constitution, the Polish People's Republic is a republic of the working people, who rule the country through the intermediary of their representatives. The State ensures the power and freedom of the people and secures the economic and cultural development of the country, and a higher living standard for the people.

The S e y m (P a r l i a m e n t) is the highest organ of State Authority and the representative of the sovereign rights of the nation. The deputies to Parliament are elected one per 60,000 inhabitants — on the basis of universal, direct and equal

suffrage by secret ballot. The deputies are responsible to their electors and may be dismissed by them. Parliament has the exclusive right to adopt laws and to exercise control over the activities of all organs of State Authority and all administrative bodies. Parliament is elected for a term of four years.

Legislative Bills may be introduced by the Council of State, by the Government, or by the deputies themselves.

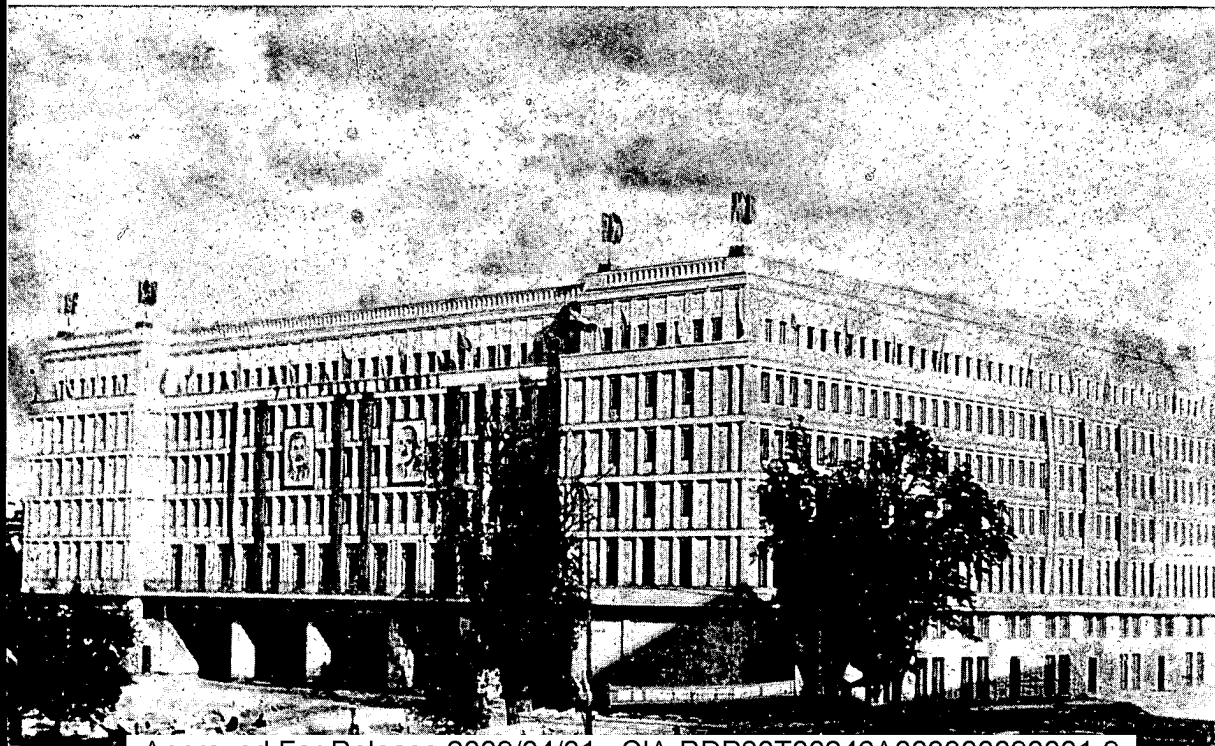
The Council of State consists of fifteen members elected by and accountable to Parliament.

On the expiration of the life of a Parliament, the Council of State retains its powers until the formation of a new Council of State by the newly-elected Parliament.

The Council of State has all the prerogatives of the President of the Republic. Apart from these, the Council of State exercises control over the local People's Councils. In the intervals between sessions of Parliament, the Council of State performs a number of vicarious functions.

The Council of Ministers (Cabinet) is the supreme executive and administrative organ of State Authority.

Headquarters of the Central Committee of the Polish United Workers' Party



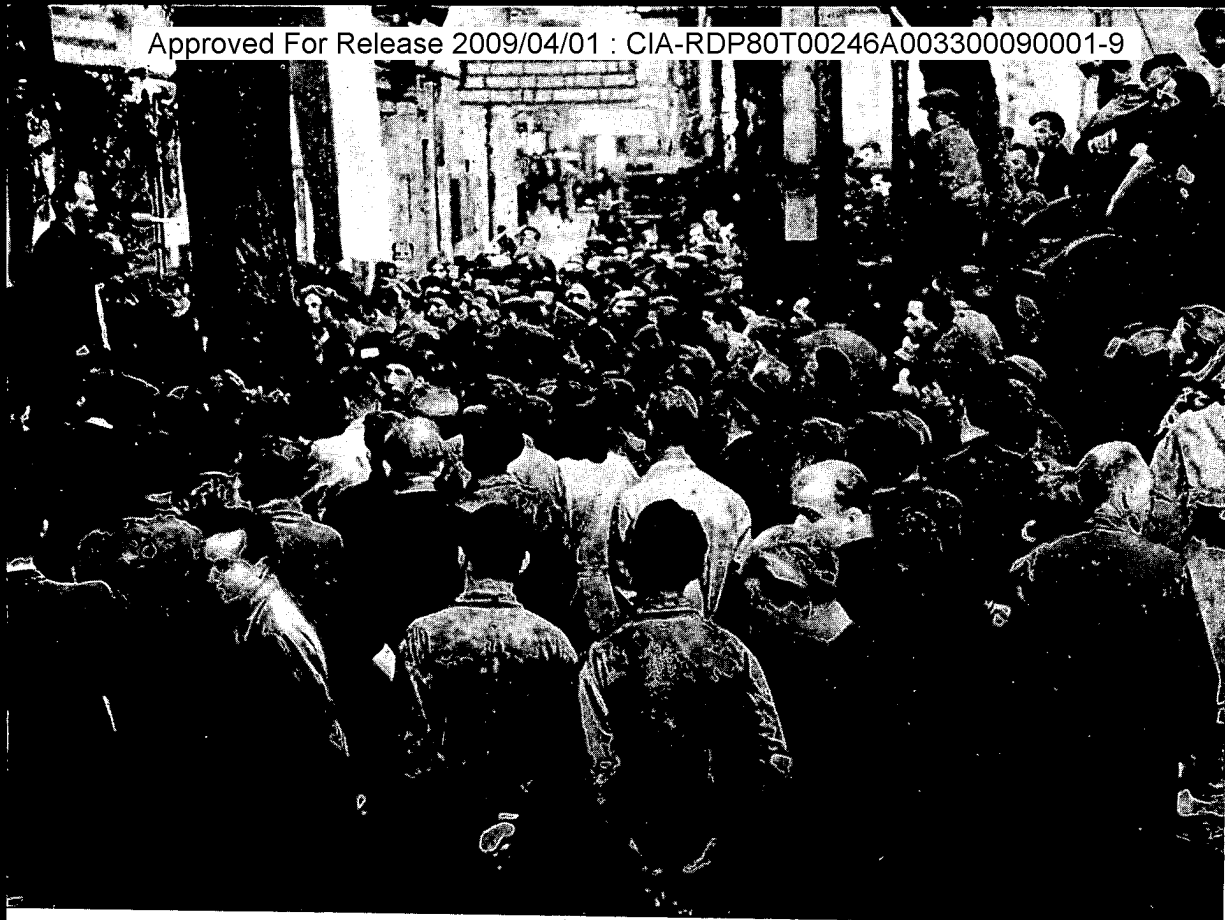


Members of the Government on the tribune during the May Day Parade

The Council of Ministers is appointed and removed from office by Parliament, to which it is responsible and accountable.

The People's Councils are the local organs of State Authority at all levels of the administrative structure. They are elected by the local population for a term of three years on the basis of universal, direct and equal suffrage by secret ballot. The elected deputies may be recalled by the electorate.

The People's Councils are responsible for maintaining close contact with the working masses, by examining the claims, requests and complaints of the population, encouraging the initiative of the people, rallying the citizens to co-operative work, holding public meetings and publicly rendering account of their activities. The People's Councils direct the economic, social and cultural activities in their respective territories, linking local requirements with the general tasks of the State: they take care of the everyday needs and the interests



A mass meeting in the "Ursus" Tractor Factory

of the population: they ensure the maintenance of public order, the observance of the laws and the protection of the rights of citizens.

The executive organs of the People's Councils are the Praesidia elected by them. Each Praesidium is subordinated to the People's Council which elected it and to the executive organ of a higher instance of the People's Council.

The Law Courts. Justice is administered by the Supreme Court of Poland, the Voivodship Courts and the District Courts. The judges are independent and subject only to the law. Democratization of the courts of law has found its expression in introducing the principle that both the judge and the people's lay judges are elected by the people.

The highest judicial organ is the Supreme Court which is elected by the Council of State for a term of five years. The Supreme Court supervises the activities of all other courts.

The Council of State also appoints the Attorney General. The Office of the Attorney General and its subordinate organs ensure the maintenance of public order, protect public property and the rights of citizens.

POLITICAL AND SOCIAL ORGANISATIONS

The Polish United Workers' Party (P.Z.P.R.). In December 1948, the Polish working class movement was unified by the merging of the Polish Workers' Party and the Polish Socialist Party to form the Polish United Workers' Party.

The Polish United Workers' Party, the ideology of which is Marxism-Leninism, constitutes the vanguard of the working

The headquarters of the Central Council of Trade Unions



class and is the leader of the nation as a whole. It is the political organizer of the working masses on their way forward to Socialism.

Members of the Polish United Workers' Party are proud of the historic traditions of the "Proletariat" Party (second half of the 19th century), of the Social-Democratic Party of Poland and Lithuania (1893—1918), and of the Polish Communist Party (inter-war period), which led the working class in their struggle for social and national liberation.

The Polish United Workers' Party carries on the work of the Polish Workers' Party which, during the Second World War, in close collaboration with the left-wing of the Polish Socialist Party, led the Polish people in their struggle for national and social liberation, in their resistance against the Nazi occupants, and after the liberation established the People's State.

The Polish United Workers' Party is inspired by the example of the heroic Communist Party of the Soviet Union under the leadership of which the people overthrew the exploiting classes and established the first Socialist State in the world.

The United Peasants' Party recruits its members from among working peasants. It was established after the merging of the Peasants' Party and the Polish Peasants' Party.

The Democratic Party is comprised mainly of progressive intellectuals and artisans.

Both of the above-mentioned parties stand for close collaboration with the Polish United Workers' Party, within the framework of the National Front of the Fight for Peace and Laying the Foundations of Socialism in Poland.

The Trade Unions in People's Poland comprise the great majority of the working people. In 1951, they had 4,200,000 members.

Together with the State Authorities, the trade unions direct all their efforts to raising the standard of living and cultural level of the working masses. They supervise the proper use of social funds and concern themselves with the development of the social insurance system and the improvement of conditions of work.

The trade unions mobilize the workers for the realisation of production plans, direct socialist work emulation and teach the workers to have a sense of responsibility in the organization and the direction of socialist production.

Every trade union embracing the workers of one branch of industry or service is a member of the Trade Union Federation, the governing body of which is the Congress and the Central Council of Trade Unions.

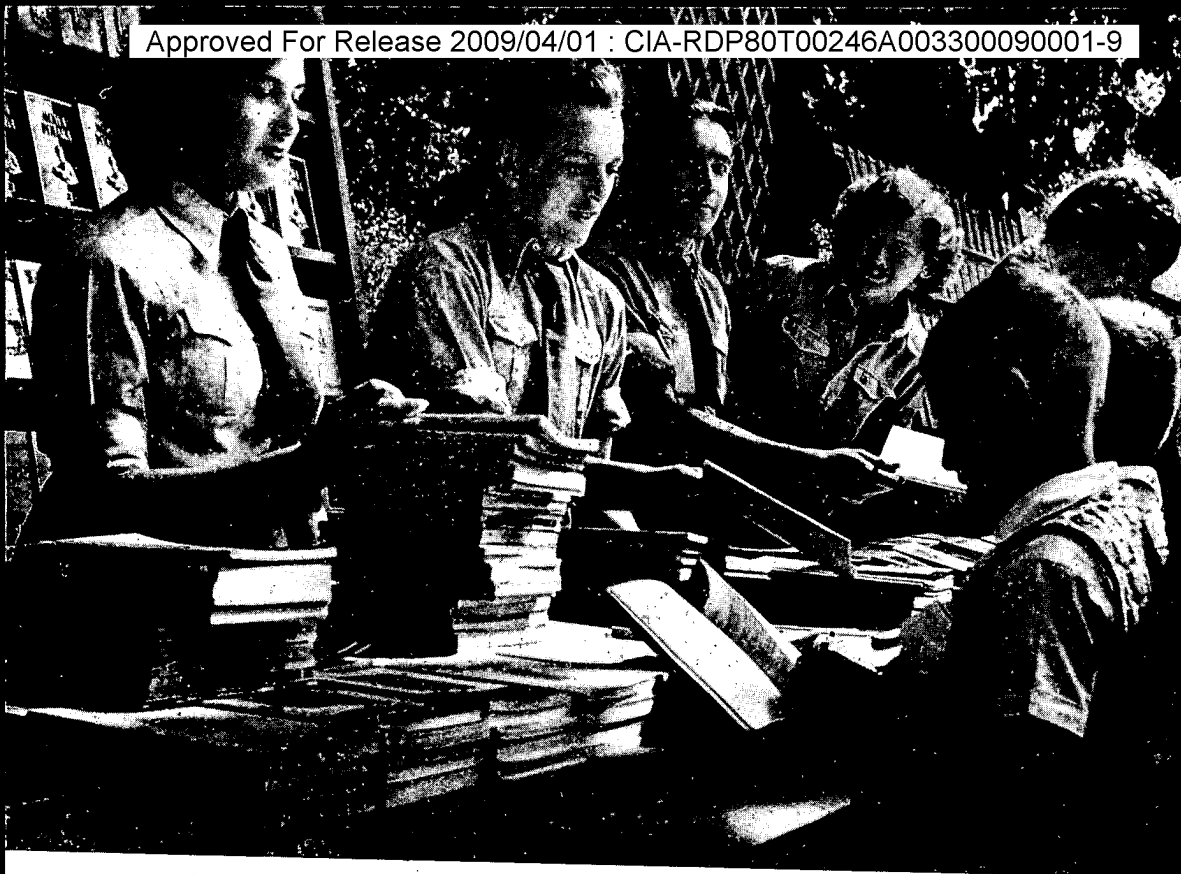
The works councils, which are the executive organs of the trade union branches, co-operate with the administration of work establishments and institutions, every one of these bodies keeping its independence.

The Polish Trade Union Federation is affiliated to the World Federation of Trade Unions.

The Peasant Mutual-Aid Union is the mass organization of the working peasants and has a membership of some two million small and medium farmers. The P.M.A.U.

Congress of the League of Women





Members of the Union of Polish Youth helping at a book fair

circles organize village co-operatives which supply the rural population with manufactured goods, and establish clubs, cultural and recreation centres.

There is close collaboration between the P.M.A.U. and the trade unions to consolidate the alliance between workers and peasants. Constant exchange takes place of guest performances between factory theatrical and other groups of artists performing in villages, and rural groups of artists performing in factories. Almost every factory in Poland has "adopted" at least one village.

The League of Women. This non-party mass organization embraces two million urban and rural working women and housewives. The tasks of the League of Women are to organize cultural and educational work, to co-operate with



A Young Pioneers' camp

the State and other social organizations in mother and child care and to afford every possible help to women in their home and professional life.

The League of Women is affiliated to the World Federation of Democratic Women.

The Union of Polish Youth (Z.M.P.) concerns itself with educating youth in the spirit of patriotism, the struggle for Peace and Socialism. This organization has a membership of 1,100,000 divided among 42,700 factory, village and school circles.

The Union of Polish Youth plays its part in the rebuilding of the country. Members of the Union are participating in the socialist emulation movement. In the schools, the Union of Polish Youth helps to raise the level of studies.

The Union of Polish Youth is affiliated to the World Federation of Democratic Youth.

The Association of Polish Students is comprised of students from academic schools and is affiliated to the International Union of Students.

The Union of Polish Pioneers, a children's organization of more than 700,000 boys and girls up to 16 years of age, trains future active members of the Union of Polish Youth and operates mainly in schools.

The "Service to Poland" organization is a separate youth organization developing under the leadership of the Union of Polish Youth. Its task is to direct the contributions of young people in the rebuilding and development of our country, to help them to learn a profession, to intensify their political consciousness and to become physically fit.

The "Service to Poland" brigades take part in work on the farms, on the building sites and in the factories. Each period of service in the brigade lasts for six months on the basis of a 32-hour working week, for which members are paid at the same rate as regular workers. The balance of the time is used in professional training, raising the level of their education, and in sport and entertainment.

III

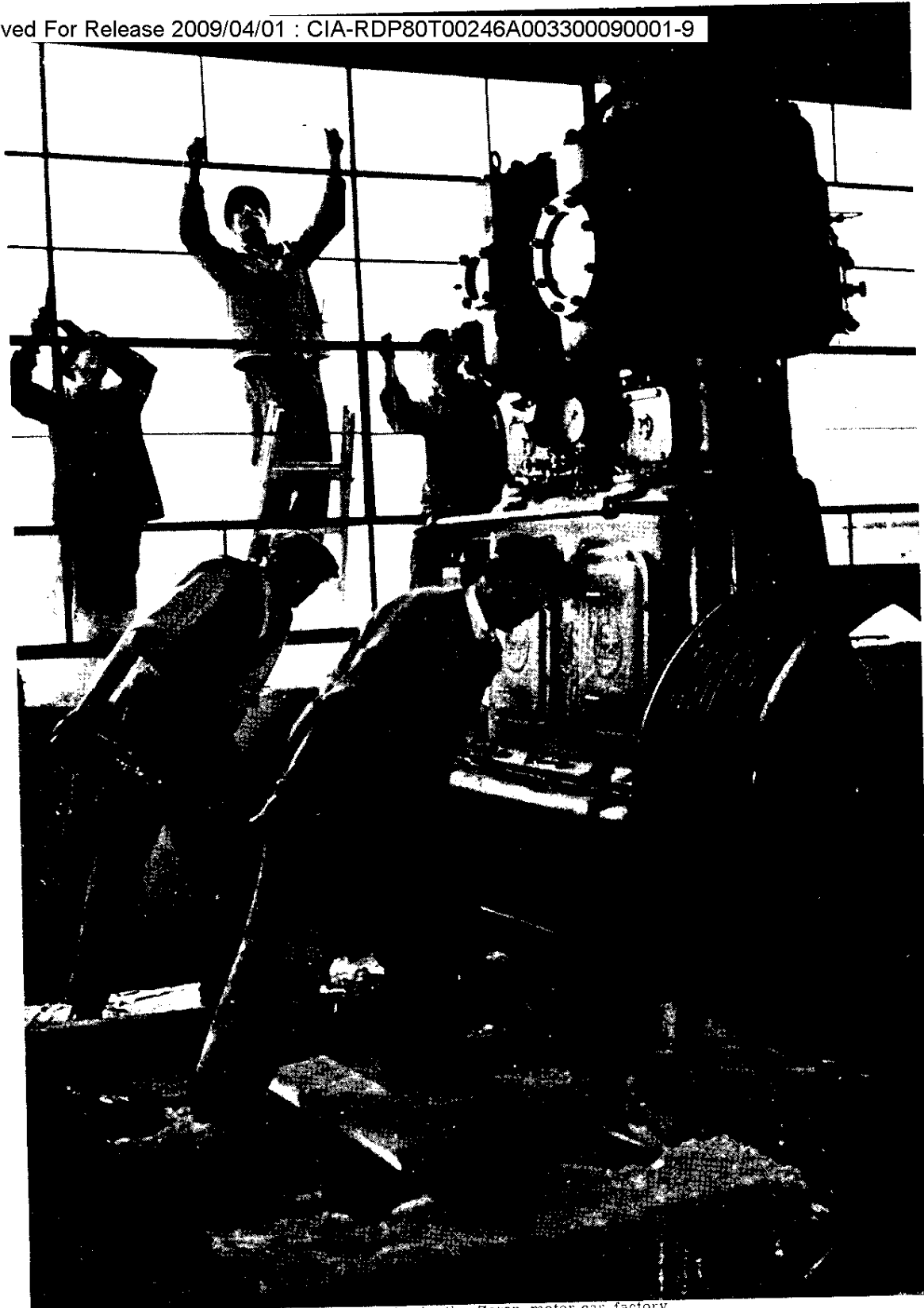
ECONOMIC ASPECTS OF PEOPLE'S POLAND

One of the most characteristic features of Poland today is the great impetus of creative work, which finds its expression in the imposing economic achievements of the young People's State.

W a r l o s s e s. Next to the Soviet Union, Poland sustained the greatest losses during World War II. As a result of military action and systematic devastation on the part of the occupation forces, the national property was diminished by almost 38 per cent.

Assembly of a Soviet coal-cutting combine





Compressors of Soviet make in the Zeran motor-car factory

Achievements in reconstruction. The tremendous losses sustained did not break the will of the Polish population. On the contrary, they aroused the creative forces of the people. Having taken over the State power, the masses of the people, led by the working class, undertook the reconstruction of the country with unprecedented energy and self-sacrifice, carrying out, at the same time, fundamental social and economic reforms.

The momentum of reconstruction was particularly vigorous during the Three-Year Plan, (1947—49), which was fulfilled 2 months ahead of schedule.

The results obtained during the reconstruction period are reflected in the following table:

a. National Income

	1938	1946	1949
Total	100	67	125
Per capita	100	96	176

b. Industrial Production

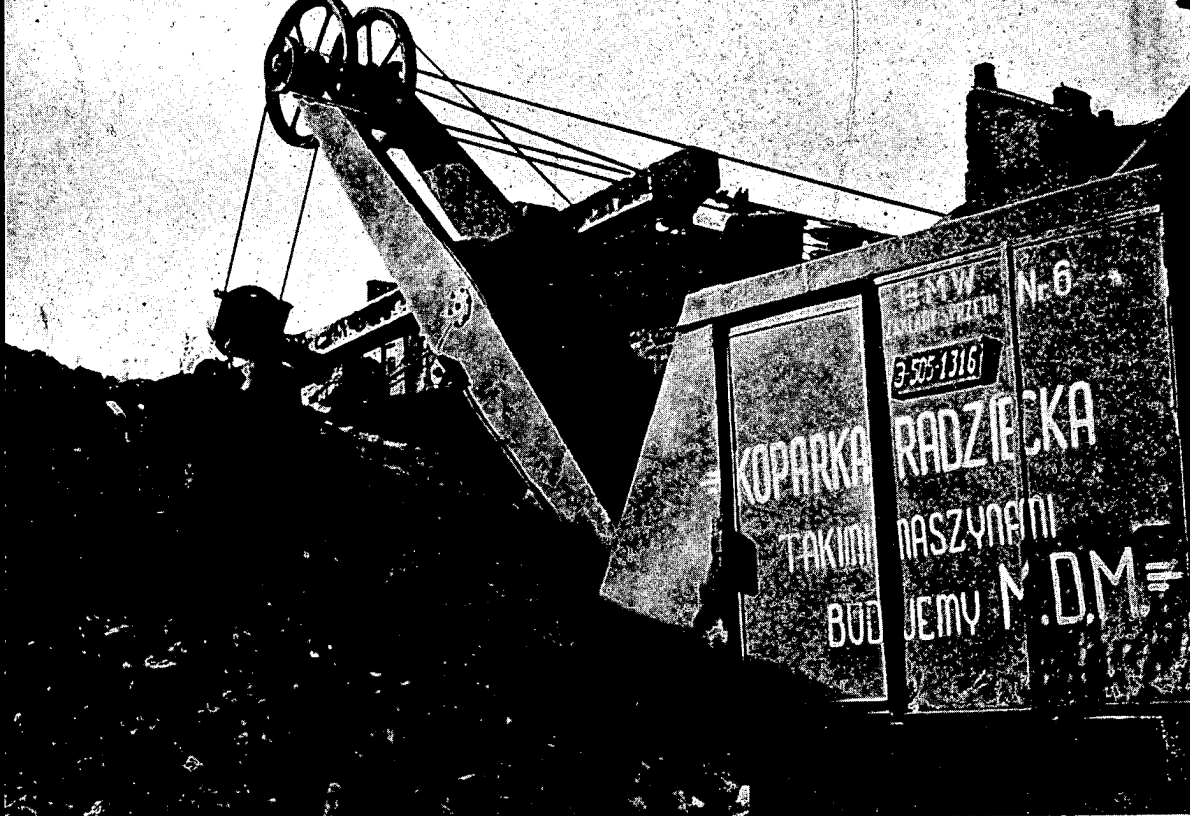
	1938	1946	1949
Total	100	73	177
Per capita	100	106	250

c. Agricultural Production

	1938	1946	1949
Total	100	47	91
Per capita	100	67	127

It must be stressed that, as a result of the fulfilment of the Three-Year Plan, Poland not only repaired the war damages and raised the level of its economy above pre-war standards, but made a big step forward on the road of changing the system of government, the social and economic structure.

Far-reaching changes. During the five years following the war, Poland changed from a backward agricul-

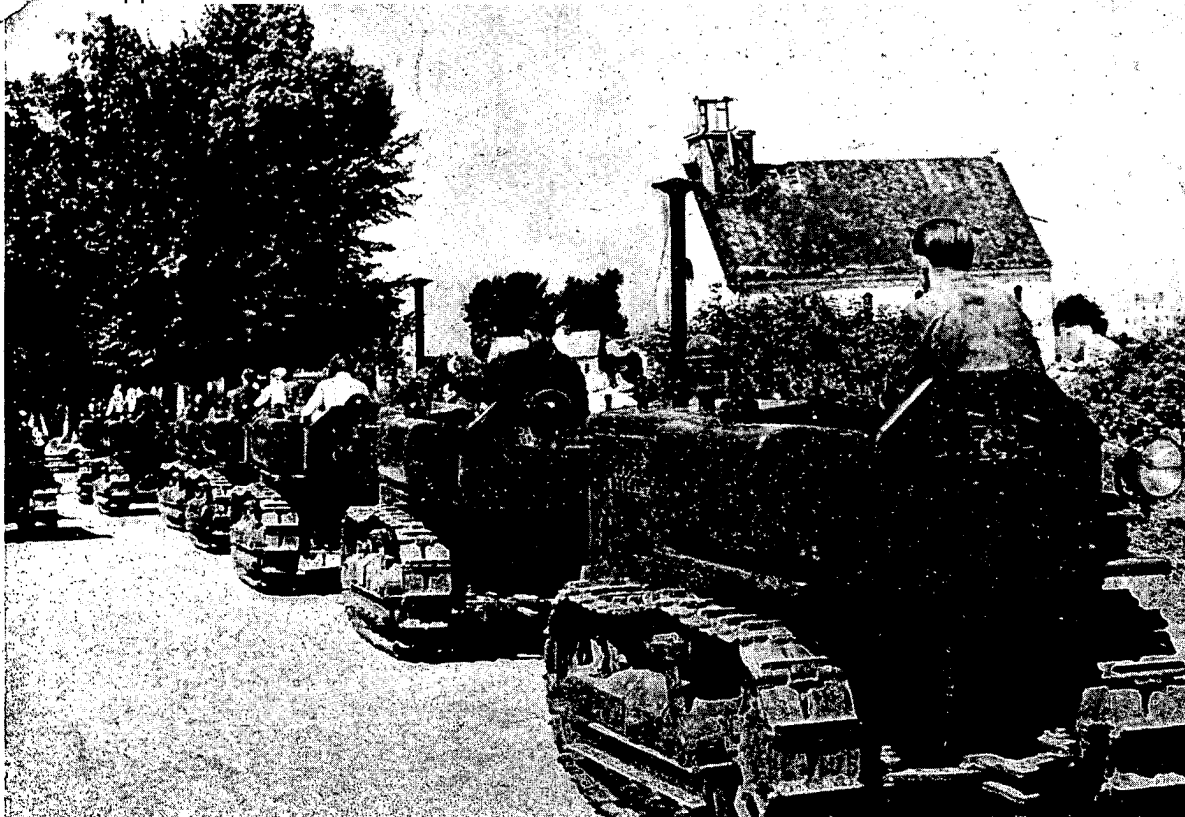


A Soviet excavator clearing away the rubble in Warsaw

tural country with a low national income, to a vigorous, progressive industrial and agricultural country.

Index of joint agricultural and industrial output		
	1937	1951
Industrial output*	47.6	71.9
Agricultural output*	52.4	28.1

Simultaneously, the fundamental structure of Polish industry has changed.



Tractors for the Polish countryside

According to the 1931 census, 61.4% of the population worked on the land before the war; in 1950, this figure was reduced to 45.8%.

The economic development and the structural changes in the social and economic life of the country are closely linked with the dynamic growth of socialist forms of economy.

Socialised sector's share in the total industrial output and retail trade turnover

	1946	1949	1951
In industry	79%	89%	96%
In retail trade	22%	55%	93%